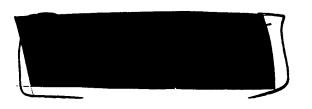
INDIA-FRANCE: Nuclear Fuel Agreement Likely

New Delhi expects Paris to agree to provide fuel for the Tarapur reactors without demanding safeguards in perpetuity. The Indian Government believes trade and arms deals it has signed with Paris will help pave the way for an agreement before President Mitterrand visits New Delhi next month. The French have hinted privately they will not insist on explicit perpetual safeguards. The Secretary General of the French Foreign Ministry visits New Delhi for talks today.

Comment: French economic motives and India's need for the fuel make agreement likely. India probably will continue privately to insist that all safeguards at Tarapur end when its agreement with the US expires in 1993.



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